



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: M. Zung, et al.

SERIAL No.: (not yet assigned)

FILED: September 11, 2003

TITLE: ARTICULATING SUTURING  
DEVICE AND METHOD

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 6771USP4

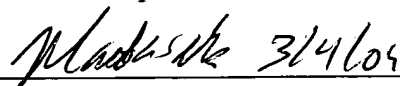
Group Art No.: (not yet assigned)

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with  
any paper referred to as being attached or  
enclosed) is being deposited with the United  
States Postal Service as First Class Mail to  
Addressee Service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10  
addressed to:

Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit: March 4, 2004

  
Matthew H. Mader Date

Box Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

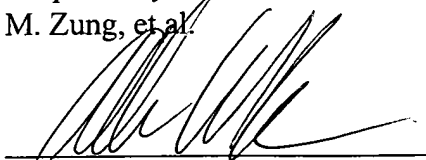
**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

With regard to the application identified above, Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner for Patents to extend the period for response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application mailed on December 08, 2003 for one month from February 08, 2004 to March 4, 2004. Please charge Deposit Account No. 01-0025 in the amount of \$110.00 for the associated extension fee. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited, respectively, to the above numbered deposit account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Telephone: (650) 474-3326  
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted,  
M. Zung, et al.

  
Allen W. Wark  
Registration No. 30,503  
Attorney for Applicants